NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Monday, February 24, 2003 1 p.m.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

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STATE, LOCAL GOVERNMENT NEEDS STRUCTURAL DAMAGE INFORMATION BY FEB. 28

Residents, Businesses Asked to Provide Snowstorm Related Damages to Buildings and Structures

The Delaware Emergency Management Agency, together with emergency management offices in the three counties and the City of Wilmington request that residents and businesses provide information about structural damage that occurred as a result of the recent snow storm. Damage information is needed related to houses, businesses or other buildings, such as garages, barns or other detached buildings.

Snowstorm damage information may be reported during business hours, from Monday, February 24, through Friday, February 28, 2003, to the following emergency management offices:

City of Wilmington Emergency Management Open 9 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.	(302) 576-2489
New Castle County Emergency Preparedness, Customer Information and Assistance Open 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.	(302) 395-5555
Kent County Emergency Management Open 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.	(302) 735-3466 (302) 735-3467
Sussex County Emergency Management Open 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.	(302) 855-7801

"Our goal is to get a clear picture of the effects of this major snowstorm and to do that, we are asking the public and private sectors to provide us with information about structural damage to their homes and facilities," DEMA Director Jamie Turner said.

"This information will be combined with other snow related response activities, such as roadway snow removal to help get a complete picture of the snowstorm's impact to Delaware." "This information, once compiled, will be used for a variety of purposes and serve as a benchmark for damage assessment and response actions of future storms."

The emergency management offices of the counties and the City of Wilmington have forms for the public to fill out for needed information regarding structural damage. Residents and business owners are asked to have information in the following categories:

- TYPE OF FACILITY residence, business, outbuilding, etc.
- **TYPE OF DAMAGE** –total or partial building collapse, roof collapse or damage, basement flooded, foundation shift, personal property or other
- STATUS OF RESIDENCE OR BUSINESS habitable or open for business, evacuated or closed
- INSURANCE AVAILABLE?
- PICTURE OF DAMAGE AVAILABLE
- WRITTEN DESCRIPTION OF DAMAGE